

## INDORSED BY LABOR LEADERS

Little Opposition Now Evincing to the Policy of General Health Insurance.

## WOULD TEND TO EFFICIENCY

Secretary of New York State Federation Unreservedly in Favor of the Movement—Of Benefit to Employers and Employees—Is Part of British Labor Party's Policy.

General health insurance is a social essential in Europe. Liberals and radicals consider it a part of the alphabet of readjustment. The British labor party incorporated it in its wide program of fundamental change. An international conference of labor leaders held at Leeds during the second year of the war termed it one of the essentials of the new social order.

In previous years health insurance has been combated in this country by labor unions and other interests. The unions felt that their appeal would be weakened by government insurance. They took the same position concerning an eight-hour day by law. They wanted the shorter working day, but they thought that they must win it by legislation. There is reason to surmise that the opinion of organized labor and some of the other groups hitherto hostile to health insurance is now shifting. Soon, perhaps, in many states the reform will be accepted as a matter of course.

Labor federations in California, New Jersey and Wisconsin, as well as the New Yorkers, now back the health insurance. The New Yorkers, moreover, said openly that they regarded the movement of equal benefit to employers. Thus Secretary Edward Bates of the New York State Federation of Labor is quoted:

"Health insurance, mutually managed and mutually supported at actual cost, under the supervision of the state, will be even more than workmen's compensation is—a benefit to the employees, and we do not hesitate to add that if employers will show a spirit of co-operation health insurance will soon be recognized as equally beneficial to industry. We believe, furthermore, that most friction resulting in open hostility between workmen and their employers might be removed at the source if there were more just such opportunities for workmen and their employers to consult together over such matters of common interest as the conservation of the health and efficiency of the workers."

So far health insurance has been pursuing the route marked out by workmen's compensation measures. At first these were fought both by labor and by industry. After a time union labor accepted this state accident insurance as a cardinal element in its legislative creed. Then finally business began to see the economy of the system. At first it was written in optional forms into the state laws. Finally legislators had the courage to make it compulsory, and now the federal Supreme court has given its sanction to compulsory state accident insurance, completing the cycle.

The American Association for Labor Legislation, which long was one of the backers of the compensation movement, is now furthering the health insurance campaign. John B. Andrews, secretary of the association, speaks of the shockingly high percentage of draft rejections on account of physical disability as a revelation of the necessity of some such system. He well argues that not until general insurance penalizes ill health will the full energies of the state be directed to the prevention of disease.

### How About This?

"Why is the working man in America so well under control?" asked Sir Johnston Forbes Robertson, actor, at a meeting at London, England, to support the work of the Y. W. C. A. "Because there the working man is under the thumb of his wife."

He added that in America the working woman "is a highly intelligent woman, and the consequence is that Mr. Gompers is having practically no trouble with the vast and powerful unions all over America."

"Practically," said Sir Johnston, "America is a woman's country, and in my view, a jolly good job, too!"

### Germans Pay Much for Food.

Cost of living in Germany has increased from 200 to 300 per cent, while wages of the working people have only increased 50 per cent. Figures of the bureau of labor statistics show the food cost to the average German family for one week to be \$13.01, compared with \$5.98 before the war started, or an increase of 117 per cent. Increases in cost of fuel, clothing, shoes and other necessary commodities have increased more rapidly than food.

### More Accidents in Wisconsin.

A report by the Wisconsin industrial commission shows that the number of industrial accidents in Wisconsin increased from 11,006 in the industrial year 1914-15 to 16,015 in 1915-16 and 20,560 in 1916-17.

### When Women Run Street Cars.

Organized labor has been protesting against the attempted employment of women by the Kenosha street railway.

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## LABOR'S INTEREST IN WAR

Well for Every Workman to Consider What German Victory Would Mean to Him.

"The hope of labor," says Samuel Gompers in his proclamation to workers, "lies in the opportunity for freedom. The workers of America will not permit themselves to be deceived or deceive themselves into thinking the fate of the war will not vitally change our own lives. A victory for Germany will mean a pan-German empire dominating Europe and exerting a world balance of power which Germany will seek to extend by force into world control. Prussian rule means supervision, checks, unfreedom in every relation of life."

This is such an obviously common sense view that it should appeal to every worker in the land. The wonder is that every worker has not of himself arrived at precisely that conclusion after what has occurred in the last three years and a half. There is no hope whatever under Prussian rule for the freedom which Americans enjoy. Prussian rule means, as Mr. Gompers says, supervision, checks, unfreedom in every relation of life. How many American workmen have been shot or threatened with death because of their strikes? Is there any workman who does not know how Prussianism ended the strikes in Germany several weeks ago?—Buffalo Express.

## ENORMOUS INCREASE OF WOMEN WORKERS

An increase of 1,426,000 in the number of women employed since 1914 is shown in figures announced by the bureau of labor statistics.

The greatest increase was in industries which took in 530,000 more women, but the largest proportionate increase was 214,000 additional women taken into government service. Women have replaced 1,413,000 men since 1914.

Industrial and government work have taken 400,000 women formerly employed in domestic service or in dressmaking.

## LABOR MISSION TO EUROPE

Body Will Officially Define Position of American Workers With Regard to the War.

To make known to British and French labor the position of labor in the United States with regard to the war, a delegation of nine American labor leaders, with credentials of the American Federation of Labor, will sail shortly for England and France. This was announced by the American Alliance for Labor and Democracy, of which Samuel Gompers is president.

The American labor mission, according to a spokesman for the alliance, will tell British and French labor leaders that organized labor in the United States is committed to the prosecution of the war to a successful conclusion and will not confer with any representatives of an enemy country.

The mission, officially known as the "American Federation of Labor Mission," is composed of the following: James Wilson, president Patternmakers' League of North America, chairman; John P. Frey, executive International Molders' Union of North America, secretary; William Short, president Washington State Federation of Labor; Miss Melinda Scott, president Straw Hat Trimmers and Operatives' union; Miss Agnes Nestor, vice president Glove Workers' International union; William B. Johnson, president International Association of Machinists; George L. Berry, president International Printing Pressmen's and Assistants' union; Chester M. Wright, member International Typographical union; Martin F. Ryan, president Brotherhood of Railway Carmen.

### Few Strikes in Britain.

There are now fewer strikes in Great Britain than at any period since the war began, says an official report to parliament on the labor situation. The report says in part:

"The soundness of the labor situation in this country is really remarkable, considering the large issues involved and the millions of men affected. After three and a half years of war the great body of laboring men are still working with a steady devotion never known before in this country."

Winston Churchill, in a statement supplementing this report, said that the labor situation was so good that the secret service department in the ministry of munitions had been abolished and the ministry now has no secret agents of any kind. "The widespread and unswerving loyalty and resolution with which the production of munitions is being maintained is shown by the fact that time lost in all branches of our work during the last six months has been less than one-fourth of 1 per cent," he added.

### Agency for Women War Workers.

Plans for the co-ordination of all activities concerned with the recruiting and training of volunteer women war workers for farm and industrial occupations into a single agency under the department of labor were approved by representatives of prominent women's organizations in conference with John B. Denmore, director of the United States employment service. A tentative program calls for an organization in each state.

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## APPROVED BY WAGE EARNERS

Commission Form of Administering Labor Laws Has Been Successful.

## WISCONSIN FIRST IN FIELD

That State Led in Adoption of Plan—Opinion in New York Is Wholly in Favor of the System—Its Beneficial Effects Pointed Out.

In recent years a rather novel method of administering a state's labor laws has been developed. It is the concentrated commission form, in which rather wide latitude in exercising discretionary powers is given to a small body of men. Wisconsin was the first state to establish a commission with these quasi-legislative and judicial powers coupled with administrative authority.

In 1915 New York state reorganized its system of labor law enforcement in this fashion, disposing of numerous unrelated or distantly related administrative agencies with the idea of avoiding a vast amount of waste and duplication of effort. Such concentration in New York, of course, involves a highly complicated problem. It affects laws that apply to 3,000,000 wage earners, in a state wherein occur 1,000 accidents daily, wherein there is a great diversity of manufacturing establishments and a great variety of races. The commission operates through eight large bureaus—inspection, fire hazards, mediation and arbitration, statistics and information, industries and immigration, industrial code, employment and workmen's compensation.

In order to study this commission form of government an investigation was conducted under the joint supervision.

Among the suggestions made by the investigators were those for further extension of the civil service, added appropriations, a larger force in some departments, more careful differentiation between procedure in making modifications or orders and in granting variations from the law or the code, more energetic prosecutions, the desirability of abolishing home work and a diminution in the amount of routine work assumed by the commissioners.

The right to amend or modify labor laws or to grant exceptions with respect to the physical requirements of buildings and devices for preventing accidents is regarded as highly important. This, it is believed, opens the way to secure safety without compelling compliance with requirements that might be unreasonable or impracticable in given instances. This method appears to have brought about a better feeling among those subject to the laws.

The investigators suggest that much of the detailed work now done by the commission should be disposed of in other ways, in order that the commission might devote more time to framing policies.

The report concludes that on the whole the operation of the industrial commission act, after making due allowance for the exceptional difficulties and circumstances of the first year of its administration, confirms the opinion that the act is one of the most beneficial pieces of labor legislation ever adopted by the New York legislature. Not only have its fundamental principles been vindicated, the report declares, but under its provisions the enforcement of the state's labor laws has been improved.

## STRENGTH OF AMERICA IS IN HER WORKERS

Secretary Daniels is quoted as saying, "there is no news in a diligent toiler." This has been interpreted as meaning that the diligent toiler does not make news because he is so busy making ships and guns and uniforms and shells. That kind of a toiler is the strength of America today. So says the official organ of organized labor, and the Vigilantes agree with it.

### Woman's Work at Man's Pay.

The Woman's Trade Union league of New York, in a recent conference, voted to ask the New York state legislature to pass a bill prohibiting employment of woman messengers less than twenty-five years of age. Miss Maude Malone declared the only reason for using women and girls as messengers was that they cost less money than men.

Effort to pass a resolution protesting against the employment of women in subways and on surface lines failed, when it was shown that women employed on New York city street cars received same pay as men.

It was declared by various delegates that there was no actual shortage of man power in the United States and that the placing of women in men's positions was prompted in most cases by the desire for cheap labor. This, it was contended, tends to break down the standards sought by organized labor, and the conference expressed itself as being sternly opposed to any lowering of the standards set up in the existing labor law.

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## GERMAN WORKERS ILL PAID

Study of Labor Conditions in That Country and the United States Is Interesting.

Studies of labor conditions in Germany and this country in a period immediately preceding the war have been made and the result announced. Just before the war the normal wages in Chemnitz, Germany, were approximately these:

From \$8 to \$8 a week for masons, plumbers, painters and bricklayers; \$7 to \$9 for plasterers, about \$8.50 for gasfitters, \$6 to \$9 for machinists, \$7 to \$8 for molders, about the same for pattern makers, and \$6 for saddlers. Teamsters worked for about a dollar a day. In the textile trade wages ran from \$8 to \$7 a week, and unskilled men generally received less than \$4 a week and seldom more than \$5. Municipal employees drew from their local governments \$4 to \$6 a week.

Wages in Berlin were about 20 per cent higher, also living expenses.

It is something of a shock to the American mechanic when he reads such figures as these. Here in our America the contrast was amazing at that time and would be again in peace terms.

In New York, then, plasterers were getting \$5.50 a day, and plasterers' laborers got \$3.25; cement and concrete masons, \$5, and their laborers \$3; granite cutters \$5; boiler makers, \$5, and their helpers \$3.50; electrical workers, \$4.50; steam fitters, \$5, and their helpers \$3; painters, \$4; asbestos workers, \$4.50, and their helpers \$2.80; elevator constructors, \$5; stationary engineers, \$4.50; portable and hoisting engineers, \$5.50; cabinet-makers, \$5; decorators and gliders, \$4.50; ironworkers, \$5; slate roofers, \$5.

In Chemnitz, about this time, newspaper compositors received something like \$13 a week. In New York the union scale at that time on morning newspapers was \$31 a week, while bookwork paid \$21. At the time my figures were gathered, in 1915, newspaper compositors in New York were getting from \$5 to \$6 a day, according to the shift on which they worked. Book compositors drew from \$4 to \$5 a day.

The New York wages cited were paid for eight hours' work, while in Germany the day was usually from nine to ten hours.

Among authoritative data that had been gathered in Germany in 1905 was a canvass of 5,046 workmen's families, showing that only 737 had incomes reaching \$10 a week. To arrive at a fair estimate of wage scales in 1915, add \$1 a week.

## WAGE INCREASE DECIDED ON

Director General McAdoo's Board Recognizes Necessity for Advancing Scale of Railroad Employees.

Wages increases for all of the 1,939,390 employees of the railroads of the country have been decreed by Director General McAdoo's railroad wage board, according to information obtained.

The board recently concluded exhaustive hearings on the demands presented by the four brotherhoods of railway employees. The board found that the increased cost of living made necessary higher wages for all railway employees, including clerks. The increase will apply to unorganized as well as organized employees.

The largest increases will go to the trainmen, firemen and certain classes of unorganized employees which have not received substantial advances in recent years. The companies have experienced great difficulty in keeping trainmen and firemen in the last few years because of the higher wages they were able to obtain in war industries.

The engineers and conductors are scheduled to receive proportionately smaller increases than other employees because of the higher pay they have enjoyed as a result of successful demands made from time to time by their organizations.

It is estimated that the increases proposed by the board will aggregate \$50,000,000. The pay roll of the railroads is now \$1,500,000,000 annually.

### States Called to Furnish Boys.

State quotas for the boys' army of 250,000 to work on the farms have been prepared and the enrollment opened. The quotas are: California, 37,000; Colorado, 10,000; District of Columbia, 3,000; Delaware, 1,500; Georgia, 8,000; Indiana, 26,000; Illinois, 41,000; Iowa, 21,000; Idaho, 4,800; Missouri, 21,000; Maryland, 5,500; Michigan, 25,000; Minnesota, 16,000; Massachusetts, 30,000; New York, 67,000; New Jersey, 120,000; Nevada, 1,000; North Carolina, 4,000; Oklahoma, 1,000; Pennsylvania, 45,000; South Carolina, 4,000; Tennessee, 10,000; Texas, 25,500; Utah, 5,000; Virginia, 8,000; West Virginia, 5,000; and Wisconsin, 10,000.

### Saving Child Life During War.

The lives of 100,000 of the nation's children are expected to be saved in the child welfare drive which the federal children's bureau has begun. Each state has been assigned a definite quota of the hundred thousand lives to save. Methods of work will be those which have already proved efficient in saving children's lives.

### England Awake to Emergency.

One of the most remarkable developments of the war, a victory not heralded on front page news, yet which in time to come will be noted by all students of human welfare, is the saving of infant life in England during the second year of the war.

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## MONEY MUST BE PROVIDED TO WIN THIS WAR

The interest of every man, woman and child in the United States is first in the ultimate winning of the war, and second in bringing about that situation as speedily as possible. The war cannot be prosecuted with success and vigor unless the money is provided wherewith to do it.

Through Liberty Bonds everyone in America is given the most precious opportunity that has ever come to a people to aid the Government in winning a war for humanity and freedom.

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## TO OSSIE MCINTOSH

David C. McIntosh vs. Ossie McIntosh  
State of Tennessee, in Chancery  
Court of Knox County. No. 10929

In this cause, it appearing from the bill filed which is sworn to, that the defendant Ossie McIntosh is a non-resident of the State of Tennessee so that the ordinary process cannot be served upon her, it is ordered that said defendant appear before the Chancery Court, at Knoxville, Tennessee, on or before the first Monday of June next, and make defense to said bill, or the same will be taken for confessed and the cause set for hearing ex parte as to her. This notice will be published in the KNOXVILLE INDEPENDENT for four successive weeks. This 12th day of April 1918  
J. C. FORD, Clerk & Master  
Harry S. Hall, Sol.  
April 13 20 27 May 4 1918

Non-Resident Attachment Notice  
J. A. Housholder vs. B. J. Cogdill  
No. 14463

Before J. R. Ailor, Justice of the Peace for Knox County Tennessee.  
In this cause, it appears by affidavit that defendant B. J. Cogdill is justly indebted to plaintiff. He is a non-resident of Tennessee, so that ordinary process of law cannot be served upon him, and an original attachment having been levied upon his property and returned to me, it is therefore ordered that publication be made in the Knoxville Independent, a newspaper published in the City of Knoxville, Tenn., for four consecutive weeks, commanding the defendant, B. J. Cogdill, to appear before me, at my office in Knoxville, Tenn., on the 10th day of May 1918, and make defense to said suit, or it will be proceeded with ex parte.  
This 10th day of April, 1918  
J. R. Ailor, Justice of the Peace for Knox County, Tennessee.

Non-Resident Attachment Notice.  
Anna Lillie vs. Garfield A. Wilkerson  
Before J. R. Ailor Justice of the Peace for Knox County, Tenn.

In this cause, it appears by affidavit that defendant, Garfield A. Wilkerson is justly indebted to plaintiff and is a non-resident of Tennessee, so that the ordinary process cannot be served upon him and an original attachment having been issued, and returned to me, with a levy upon the defendants property it is ordered that publication be made in the Knoxville Independent, a newspaper published in the city of Knoxville, for four consecutive weeks, commanding the said defendant to appear before me, at my office in Knoxville, Tenn., on the 16th day of May 1918 and make defense to said suit, or it will be proceeded with ex parte.  
This 15th day of April 1918  
J. R. Ailor, Justice of the Peace for Knox County, Tennessee.

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## NEW WAR LABOR COUNCIL

Representatives of Employers and Labor Organizations Will Establish Basis of Cordial Relations.

Establishment of a national labor program, which was begun with the reorganization of the department of labor, has progressed another important step with the announcement of the personnel of the joint conference of employers and union leaders, who will lay down a basis of relations between capital and labor during the war.

The representatives of employers are: Loyall A. Osborne, New York, vice president Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing company, and chairman of the executive committee of the national industrial conference board; Charles F. Brooker, Ansonia, Conn., president of the American Brass company; W. H. Van Dervoort, East Moline, Ill., president of Rost and Van Dervoort Engine company; L. F. Loree, New York, president Delaware & Hudson company, chairman of board and executive committee of Kansas City Southern Railroad company; president of the Hudson Coal company, Northern Iron and Coal company and Schuykill Coal and Iron company, and C. Edwin Michael, Roanoke, Va., president of the Virginia Bridge and Iron company.

The representatives of the workers are: Frank J. Hayes, president United Mine Workers of America, Indianapolis, Ind.; William L. Hutcheson, president United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America, Indianapolis; J. A. Franklin, president of Brotherhood of Boiler Makers and Iron Shipbuilders of America, Kansas City, Kan.; Victor Olander, representative, International Seamen's Union of America, Chicago, and T. A. Rickert, president United Garment Workers of America, Chicago.

## BIG MONETARY LOSS THROUGH SICKNESS.

Eighty-four thousand of Indiana's 2,750,000 inhabitants are confined to their homes every day of the year. This is the estimate of Dr. J. N. Hurty, secretary of the state board of health. According to Doctor Hurty, each of the 800,000 workmen of the state loses an average of nine days each year because of illness. If each earns only \$1.50 a day, the total loss of wages for the year will be \$10,000,000.

Persons who send mail to members of the expeditionary forces are particularly requested, in a statement issued by the post office department, to use ink only in writing the addresses. Every piece of mail matter should also bear the name and address of the sender.

Heavy paper, canvas, or cloth should be used for wrapping packages. When canvas or cloth is used the address should be written on a shipping tag, with the name and address of the sender on the reverse side.

Given names should be written in full, instead of initials. The title of the addressee and the full name of the unit or organization to which he is assigned should be added, it being sufficient in the way of further address to use the words "American Expeditionary Forces."

Over \$41,000 in 5-cent Smileage coupons has come in from the big camps to headquarters at the commission on training camp activities in Washington. These coupons represent admissions to theatrical events at the camps. Soldiers from the smaller towns received their books early, because of the prompt response of these places when Smileage books were placed on sale, and in many cases have used them up.

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